

110TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. 1582

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## AN ACT

To reauthorize and amend the Hydrographic Services  
Improvement Act, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2       *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3       **SECTION. 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       This Act may be cited as the “Hydrographic Services  
5       Improvement Act Amendments of 2008”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

2 Section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-  
3 ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892) is amended by striking  
4 paragraphs (3), (4), and (5) and inserting the following:

5 “(3) HYDROGRAPHIC DATA.—The term ‘hydro-  
6 graphic data’ means information that—

7 “(A) is acquired through—

8 “(i) hydrographic, bathymetric, photo-  
9 grammetric, lidar, radar, remote sensing,  
10 or shoreline and other ocean- and coastal-  
11 related surveying;

12 “(ii) geodetic, geospatial, or geo-  
13 magnetic measurements;

14 “(iii) tide, water level, and current ob-  
15 servations; or

16 “(iv) other methods; and

17 “(B) is used in providing hydrographic  
18 services.

19 “(4) HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES.—The term ‘hy-  
20 drographic services’ means—

21 “(A) the management, maintenance, inter-  
22 pretation, certification, and dissemination of  
23 bathymetric, hydrographic, shoreline, geodetic,  
24 geospatial, geomagnetic, and tide, water level,  
25 and current information, including the produc-  
26 tion of nautical charts, nautical information

1           databases, and other products derived from hy-  
2           drographic data;

3           “(B) the development of nautical informa-  
4           tion systems; and

5           “(C) related activities.

6           “(5) COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY ACT.—The  
7           term ‘Coast and Geodetic Survey Act’ means the Act  
8           entitled ‘An Act to define the functions and duties  
9           of the Coast and Geodetic Survey, and for other pur-  
10          poses’, approved August 6, 1947 (33 U.S.C. 883a et  
11          seq.).”.

### 12 **SEC. 3. FUNCTIONS OF THE ADMINISTRATOR.**

13          Section 303 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-  
14          ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892a) is amended—

15               (1) by striking “the Act of 1947,” in subsection  
16               (a) and inserting “the Coast and Geodetic Survey  
17               Act, promote safe, efficient and environmentally  
18               sound marine transportation, and otherwise fulfill  
19               the purposes of this Act,”;

20               (2) by striking “data;” in subsection (a)(1) and  
21               inserting “data and provide hydrographic services;”  
22               and

23               (3) by striking subsection (b) and inserting the  
24               following:

1       “(b) AUTHORITIES.—To fulfill the data gathering  
 2 and dissemination duties of the Administration under the  
 3 Coast and Geodetic Survey Act, promote safe, efficient,  
 4 and environmentally sound marine transportation, and  
 5 otherwise fulfill the purposes of this Act, subject to the  
 6 availability of appropriations, the Administrator—

7           “(1) may procure, lease, evaluate, test, develop,  
 8 and operate vessels, equipment, and technologies  
 9 necessary to ensure safe navigation and maintain  
 10 operational expertise in hydrographic data acquisi-  
 11 tion and hydrographic services;

12           “(2) shall, subject to the availability of appro-  
 13 priations, design, install, maintain, and operate real-  
 14 time hydrographic monitoring systems to enhance  
 15 navigation safety and efficiency; and

16           “(3) where appropriate and to the extent that  
 17 it does not detract from the promotion of safe and  
 18 efficient navigation, may acquire hydrographic data  
 19 and provide hydrographic services to support the  
 20 conservation and management of coastal and ocean  
 21 resources;

22           “(4) where appropriate, may acquire hydro-  
 23 graphic data and provide hydrographic services to  
 24 save and protect life and property and support the  
 25 resumption of commerce in response to emergencies,

1 natural and man-made disasters, and homeland se-  
2 curity and maritime domain awareness needs, in-  
3 cluding obtaining mission assignments (as defined in  
4 section 641 of the Post-Katrina Emergency Manage-  
5 ment Reform Act of 2006 (6 U.S.C. 741));

6 “(5) may create, support, and maintain such  
7 joint centers with other Federal agencies and other  
8 entities as the Administrator deems appropriate or  
9 necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act; and

10 “(6) notwithstanding the existence of such joint  
11 centers, shall award contracts for the acquisition of  
12 hydrographic data in accordance with subchapter VI  
13 of chapter 10 of title 40, United States Code.”.

14 **SEC. 4. HYDROGRAPHIC SERVICES REVIEW PANEL.**

15 Section 305(c)(1)(A) of the Hydrographic Services  
16 Improvement Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892c(c)(1)(A)) is  
17 amended to read as follows: “(A) The panel shall consist  
18 of 15 voting members who shall be appointed by the Ad-  
19 ministrator. The Co-directors of the Center for Coastal  
20 and Ocean Mapping/Joint Hydrographic Center and no  
21 more than 2 employees of the National Oceanic and At-  
22 mospheric Administration appointed by the Administrator  
23 shall serve as nonvoting members of the panel. The voting  
24 members of the panel shall be individuals who, by reason  
25 of knowledge, experience, or training, are especially quali-

1 fied in 1 or more of the disciplines and fields relating to  
 2 hydrographic data and hydrographic services, marine  
 3 transportation, port administration, vessel pilotage, coast-  
 4 al and fishery management, and other disciplines as deter-  
 5 mined appropriate by the Administrator.”.

6 **SEC. 5. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

7 Section 306 of the Hydrographic Services Improve-  
 8 ment Act of 1998 (33 U.S.C. 892d) is amended to read  
 9 as follows:

10 **“SEC. 306. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

11 “There are authorized to be appropriated to the Ad-  
 12 ministrator the following:

13 “(1) To carry out nautical mapping and chart-  
 14 ing functions under sections 304 and 305, except for  
 15 conducting hydrographic surveys—

16 “(A) \$55,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

17 “(B) \$56,000,000 for fiscal year 2010;

18 “(C) \$57,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

19 “(D) \$58,000,000 for fiscal year 2012.

20 “(2) To contract for hydrographic surveys  
 21 under section 304(b)(1), including the leasing or  
 22 time chartering of vessels—

23 “(A) \$32,130,000 for fiscal year 2009;

24 “(B) \$32,760,000 for fiscal year 2010;

25 “(C) \$33,390,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

1 “(D) \$34,020,000 for fiscal year 2012.

2 “(3) To operate hydrographic survey vessels  
3 owned by the United States and operated by the  
4 Administration—

5 “(A) \$25,900,000 for fiscal year 2009;

6 “(B) \$26,400,000 for fiscal year 2010;

7 “(C) \$26,900,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

8 “(D) \$27,400,000 for fiscal year 2012.

9 “(4) To carry out geodetic functions under this  
10 title—

11 “(A) \$32,640,000 for fiscal year 2009;

12 “(B) \$33,280,000 for fiscal year 2010;

13 “(C) \$33,920,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

14 “(D) \$34,560,000 for fiscal year 2012.

15 “(5) To carry out tide and current measure-  
16 ment functions under this title—

17 “(A) \$27,000,000 for fiscal year 2009;

18 “(B) \$27,500,000 for fiscal year 2010;

19 “(C) \$28,000,000 for fiscal year 2011; and

20 “(D) \$28,500,000 for fiscal year 2012.

21 “(6) To acquire a replacement hydrographic  
22 survey vessel capable of staying at sea continuously  
23 for at least 30 days \$75,000,000.”.

1 **SEC. 6. AUTHORIZED NOAA CORPS STRENGTH.**

2 Section 215 of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric  
3 Administration Commissioned Officer Corps Act of 2002  
4 (33 U.S.C. 3005) is amended to read as follows:

5 **“SEC. 215. NUMBER OF AUTHORIZED COMMISSIONED OFFI-**  
6 **CERS.**

7 “Effective October 1, 2009, the total number of au-  
8 thorized commissioned officers on the lineal list of the  
9 commissioned corps of the National Oceanic and Atmos-  
10 pheric Administration shall be increased from 321 to 379  
11 if—

12 “(1) the Secretary has submitted to the  
13 Congress—

14 “(A) the Administration’s ship recapital-  
15 ization plan for fiscal years 2010 through 2024;

16 “(B) the Administration’s aircraft remod-  
17 ernization plan; and

18 “(C) supporting workforce management  
19 plans;

20 “(2) appropriated funding is available; and



1           “(3) the Secretary has justified organizational  
2           needs for the commissioned corps for each such fis-  
3           cal year.”

Passed the Senate September 26, 2008 (legislative  
day, September 17), 2008.

Attest:

*Secretary.*

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